

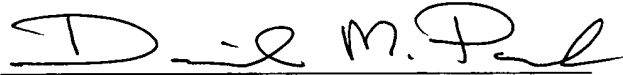
REMARKS

Applicants believe the present claims are in a condition for allowance and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
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Date: March 3, 2004



Daniel M. Pauly
Reg. No. 40,123

